

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The City of Columbus is an entitlement jurisdiction that receives federal funds from HUD to support local community development and affordable housing activities. The federal Community Planning and Development grant programs that provide these resources include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS grant (HOPWA). As a condition of receiving these funds, the City is required to submit the 5-year Consolidated Plan, which outlines the City's housing and community development needs and priorities. The Annual Action Plan, identifying that year's plan to allocate its HUD funding and address priority needs, is submitted for each of the program years in the 5-year Consolidated Plan. The 2020-2024 City of Columbus Consolidated Plan is the result of a collaborative process to identify housing and community development needs and to establish goals, priorities, and strategies to address those needs, especially for low-and-moderate income households. This 2024 Annual Action Plan reflects the budget and planned projects for the fifth and final year of the five-year plan.

Additional information on each of these funding sources is provided following the summary of the Consolidated Plan's sections. As a separate document, the Consolidated Plan is available on the City's website.

The Consolidated Plan is organized into four primary sections:

- 1. The Process (PR)**
- 2. Needs Assessment (NA)**
- 3. Housing Market Analysis (MA)**
- 4. Strategic Plan (SP)**

The Process section describes the development of the Annual Action Plan; it discusses how citizens were involved in the process and how the City consulted with public and private service providers and other stakeholders to facilitate the development of the Plan. The section also shares key findings from the citizen survey and stakeholder focus group interviews.

The Needs Assessment provides data, analysis, and other relevant information on the City's needs as they relate to affordable housing, special needs housing, community development, and homelessness. Throughout the Needs Assessment section, special attention is paid to the needs of Low-and-Moderate

Income (LMI) households, racial and ethnic minorities, homeless persons, and non-homeless special needs populations (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS, disabilities, the elderly, refugees, etc.).

The Housing Market Analysis supplements the Needs Analysis to provide additional data and inform the development of local goals. The information gathered focuses on the conditions that impact housing for the City's populations of interest, as described in the Needs Assessment, but also considers broader market forces and opportunities, and differences that may be unique to the City and to those populations.

The Strategic Plan synthesizes the information gathered in the Needs Assessment and Housing Market Analysis and selects priority areas that the City has determined to be its highest needs. These priority needs inform the creation of strategic plan goals, which then serve as a guide for the investment of HUD funds over each of the five annual action plans that follow from the Consolidated Plan. Progress towards the strategic plan goals is reported annually in the City's CAPER.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

Each year's Annual Action Plan focuses on specific projects and activities designed to meet a selection of the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan Goals.

In 2024, the City has committed to address the strategic goals of:

- 1.) Preserve and expand affordable housing
- 2.) Ensure equal access to housing
- 3.) Improve health outcomes
- 4.) Provide housing for special needs populations
- 5.) Provide educational/recreational youth programs
- 6.) Public facilities/Infrastructure improvements
- 7.) Provide housing and services for persons with HIV
- 8.) Increase access to housing and emergency shelter

9.) Program Management, capacity building and/or admin

The outcomes projected from this work will be further refined and established as goal outcome indicators during the coming months through partnership with subrecipients and project partners.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

The Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Reports (CAPERs) submitted in the past few years have shown steady and successful outcomes in delivering on the Strategic Plan Goals established. Each year the Grants Management team works with local stakeholders and with City leadership to assess which of the strategic goals and priority needs are most critical for investment, and makes an effort to ensure that strategic goals that may have received less funding in past years are given additional consideration. However, selection of goals and projects is ultimately based on the current needs identified as having highest importance, rather than in an attempt to address the widest variety of needs.

Efforts to increase the number of low-and-moderate income homeowners have been successful despite challenges in the housing market. Funding available for down payment assistance has been increased on a per-person basis to ensure it meets current needs, but market forces make it difficult to secure affordable housing even with increased down payment amounts. Efforts to provide home repair programs have had mixed success, with roof repair services steadily moving forward but other home repair services requiring additional coordination and support from partner agencies to become productive. The City has also continued to have success in providing financing to developers to complete and sell affordable housing to income-eligible homebuyers and tax incentives for housing development. The use of HOME funds, used for gap financing to developers for the production and rehabilitation of rental apartments for very-low, low-and moderate-income households, has achieved established goals. Project delays and continued staffing turnover have resulted in some delayed reporting that may limit outcomes appearing in CAPERs, however project outcomes continue to be delivered that meet stated goals. Results from recent years of activities to assist the homeless including both assisting families and individuals in maintaining or obtaining permanent housing through a homeless prevention and rapid rehousing system and provision of emergency shelter, have been successful; as have housing and supportive services to persons with HIV/AIDS. As COVID-relief funding winds down, homelessness services will contract somewhat, but the City has established new policies and procedures and invested additional capacity to ensure that there is continued progress towards meeting the needs of Columbus' most vulnerable residents.

Meeting timeliness goals over the last two years of the City's Consolidated Plan has been challenging due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a large amount of additional funding allocated to the City by the federal government. The City, City partners and residents have faced obstacles related to the pandemic. Funding decisions and prioritization of staff time are often being reevaluated based on changing needs. At the same time, construction and programing timelines have been impacted by COVID-19 related challenges. These market forces and the continued increased cost and therefore increased risk in construction projects drive additional scrutiny of these types of projects under consideration by the City.

The City is not only monitoring HUD investments annually but also throughout grant funded project implementations. If ever during a program the City assess and determines substantial changes to a project included in the Annual Action Plan is required in order to best serve residents, the City submits a Substantial Amendment to HUD.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The Department of Finance and Management, Grants Management Section received internal and external proposals for the 2024 program year HUD-funded projects from City Departments, public partners and agencies in July 2023. All proposed projects for the 2024 program year were compiled and presented at a public meeting in August. The public meeting occurred during a 30-day public comment period to encourage public participation and feedback. Six citizens made comments at the meeting, most of whom were representing an agency who submitted a proposal for 2024 HUD funding, and one who was advocating for a City infrastructure project to be completed. In addition, the list of proposed projects was posted on the Grants Management website for review and comment. The City received 26 emailed comments in support of various proposed projects.

A second public meeting and advertised 30-day public comment period is planned for October 2023, to review this Draft 2024 Annual Action Plan. The Draft AAP will be posted on the Grants Management web site, and will summarize the prioritized list of projects, estimated budgets, and funding amounts, along with all of the City's planning and coordination efforts that have occurred to date for the 2024 Annual Action Plan. A Public Hearing will be hosted by the Columbus City Council Finance Committee on October 17th, 2023. Individuals representing the agencies recommended to receive HUD funding will be given an opportunity to speak in support of their proposed project, and there will be an opportunity for additional public comments.

Grants Management staff will consider all public comments received and submit legislation to Columbus City Council to adopt the Draft 2024 Annual Action Plan following any revisions.

More information concerning Citizen Participation is attached in the Administration section of this Action Plan.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

A total of 62 public comments were received in support of proposed projects.

More information concerning Citizen Participation is attached in the Administration section of this Action Plan.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

All public comments were received and accepted.

7. Summary

The 2024 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Annual Action Plan provides a summary of the community development and housing needs in the City of Columbus and addresses the priority needs and goals identified by the Consolidated Plan (2020-2024). The Action Plan functions as an annual guide and budget to identify how federal resources will be used for projects and activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons in the City of Columbus. The draft 2024 Annual Action Plan is available for review on the City's website. Public participation in the planning process resulted in 62 comments from members of the public, which have informed the City's development of the Annual Action Plan.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies – 91.200(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

Describe the agency/entity responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role	Name	Department/Agency
Lead Agency	COLUMBUS	
CDBG Administrator	COLUMBUS	Department of Finance and Management
HOPWA Administrator	COLUMBUS	Department of Development
HOME Administrator	COLUMBUS	Department of Development
ESG Administrator	COLUMBUS	Department of Development
HOPWA-C Administrator		

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative (optional)

The Department of Finance and Management manages the CDBG program and provides support for compliance and administration of HOME, HOPWA, and ESG grant programs. Those programs are primarily managed by staff in the Department of Development.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

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AP-10 Consultation – 91.100, 91.200(b), 91.215(l)

1. Introduction

The City of Columbus is committed to addressing the community's priority needs in the most efficient and effective ways possible. In order to do this, the Department of Finance and Management, as the lead agency in the development of the current Annual Action Plan, coordinates with other city departments, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA), Community Shelter Board (CSB, the lead Continuum of Care agency), and other key stakeholders and organizations in central Ohio. By partnering with many different departments, agencies, and organizations, the City can utilize the collective knowledge of local subject matter experts to help develop strategies and goals to solve the city's priority needs.

In 2022, the City remodeled the application process for CDBG funding, with the objective to broaden public knowledge of CDBG funding opportunities and expand the impact of CDBG funding throughout the City. A new application was created for internal departments and external organizations, along with scoring criteria that the City used to competitively score all applications through a scoring committee. The City offered additional public workshops to all interested applicants prior to the application due date. These workshops were held at four different public libraries in Columbus neighborhoods and were well-attended by local non-profit organizations and other community groups. Workshops provided:

- CDBG 101 training (national objectives, eligible & ineligible activities, federal compliance requirements);
- Summary of Consolidated Plan goals;
- Walkthrough of the new application;
- Explanation of scoring criteria;
- Information on submittal process and timeline;
- Summary of Annual Action Plan process;

The City also offered one-on-one technical assistance to any interested applicants. After applications were scored and selected, the City offered application feedback assistance to any applicants interested to know how their application scored and how they can improve for next year. The City plans to continue and improve this application process each year.

Provide a concise summary of the jurisdiction's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies (91.215(I))

The City of Columbus has enhanced coordination with public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health, and service agencies in the following ways:

- The Columbus Area Affordable Housing Task Force consists of federal, state, and local government organizations, housing funders, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority, housing and homeless service providers, and community representatives. The task force meets quarterly to monitor and address issues regarding expiring HUD Section 8 contracts in Franklin County and to discuss current and future affordable housing projects.
- The Columbus and Franklin County Housing Advisory Board (HAB) is the official board that reviews and approves affordable housing projects applying for county bond financing. In addition, the HAB reviews and comments on proposed city housing bonds as required by the Ohio Revised Code. The city's Housing Bond strategy has been presented to the HAB.
- The City of Columbus is a member of the Community Development (CD) Collaborative of Greater Columbus, which is a non-profit organization that pools resources to provide operating grants and technical assistance to build the capacity of community based non-profit housing developers. The CD Collaborative Board is comprised of various lending institutions, the United Way of Central Ohio, Columbus Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, the City of Columbus and Franklin County. Staff for the collaborative is provided through a contractual relationship with the Affordable Housing Trust for Columbus and Franklin County. Currently, five non-profit community development corporations are funded by the collaborative.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness.

The City has representatives on the Continuum of Care (CoC) for Columbus and Franklin County. The local CoC is known as the Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative (RLFC) which is staffed by the Community Shelter Board (CSB). Funding, monitoring and system changes are discussed and determined by the RLFC (CoC). The city provides local general funds and Capital Improvement Bond funds, in addition to federal ESG and HOME dollars, to CSB as an intermediary agency to fund local non-profit providers working to prevent homelessness and providing emergency shelter. Efforts also include and encourage initiatives of rapid re-housing and stabilization for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Additionally, funds can also be used to support the community's Homeless Management Information System to guarantee that the community's plan to end homelessness is based on the most applicable and current homeless data available.

The City also provides local Capital Improvement Bond funds and federal HOME funds to assist in the development of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals and families.

CSB, along with its partner agencies, is implementing a transformational new system designed to move single adults more quickly into stable housing, prevent repeat homelessness, and add more capacity when overflow demands are high to make sure everyone who needs shelter can get it. There are three key components. First, a new emergency shelter is addressing the growing numbers of men, women, and families who are experiencing homelessness, so no one has to sleep on the streets in Columbus. Second, Rapid Re-housing Managers are linking with individuals when they enter the homeless system and working with them throughout their stay. Third, relationships with key partner agencies are strengthened and enhanced.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the jurisdiction's area in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

In Columbus and Franklin County, the Continuum of Care (CoC) role and responsibilities are fulfilled by a committee called the Rebuilding Lives Funder Collaborative (RLFC). The RLFC provides stewardship for all the strategies developed under the Rebuilding Lives (RL) Plan; provides funding for the capital, services, and operations of supportive housing in Columbus and Franklin County; coordinates activities for the new plan; promotes collaboration to achieve goals and strategies; and secures resources for programs and projects. The City of Columbus has an ongoing membership, representation, and participation in the RLFC.

2. Describe Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and describe the jurisdiction's consultations with housing, social service agencies and other entities

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Shelter Board
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Services-homeless
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Columbus Department of Development collaborates with Community Shelter Board on an annual basis to administer the Emergency Shelter Grant program. Each year the needs of the City's homeless population and shelter programs are assessed and funding is prioritized to help address those needs.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	Columbus Urban League
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Columbus previously contracted with the Columbus Urban League to administer the Fair Housing Program and assist Columbus residents with investigation of housing discrimination. The City regularly monitors and evaluates the activities of the Fair Housing Program.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	CD COLLABORATIVE OF GREATER COLUMBUS
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Community Development Collaborative
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Columbus is a member of the Community Development (CD) Collaborative of Greater Columbus, which is a non-profit organization that pools resources to provide operating grants and technical assistance to build the capacity of community based non-profit housing developers. The CD Collaborative Board is comprised of various lending institutions, the United Way of Central Ohio, Columbus Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, the City of Columbus and Franklin County. The work performed by the CD Collaborative benefits local community development corporations and community development housing organizations, and adds capacity to those organizations in order to increase affordable housing development opportunities and revitalize neighborhoods.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	COLUMBUS PUBLIC HEALTH
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Health Health Agency Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs HOPWA Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Columbus Public Health administers the City's HOPWA grant program(s), and there is active collaboration between the Department of Finance and Management, Columbus Public Health, and community partners, to assess needs and deliver program activities to meet the needs of Columbus residents living with HIV.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	Legal Aid Society of Columbus
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a subaward agreement with the Legal Aid Society of Columbus to provide assistance to Columbus residents who are facing unsafe or unhealthy housing conditions. Legal Aid Society identifies residents in need and landlords who are failing to provide adequate housing conditions, and through legal tools works to encourage landlords to invest in and improve their rental properties.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	IMPACT Community Action Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has contracted with IMPACT Community Action for delivery of multiple housing related programs, and actively consults with IMPACT to ensure that housing needs are understood and that activities performed to support Columbus residents maintain or find stable housing are meeting those needs.
11	Agency/Group/Organization	Community Development For All People
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a subaward agreement with Community Development for All People to provide job training and economic development programs through their South Side Cafe, focusing on formerly incarcerated individuals who are having difficulty reentering the workforce.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Rebuilding Together Central Ohio, dba Modcon Living
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a subaward agreement with Rebuilding Together Central Ohio to provide the Home Ownership Sustainability Program for low- to moderate-income Columbus residents. The program provides access to tools and trainings to make needed improvements and rehabilitation to owner occupied homes.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	CMHA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City's Department of Development collaborates closely with the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) to identify public housing needs and support development of affordable housing.
14	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Columbus Department of Development
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy Lead-based Paint Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Columbus Department of Development regularly engages with local social services organizations to manage a wide breadth of housing and development programs, including funding homeless services, roof repair, business development grants, affordable housing development, and emergency rental and mortgage assistance.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Columbus Department of Public Service
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Improving public infrastructure

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Department of Public Service engages with local planning organizations and neighborhoods across the City, and responds to resident issues through the City's 311 system, to maintain and improve the City's public infrastructure. Through collaboration with neighborhoods and through central planning efforts, the Department of Public Service installs sidewalks, resurfaces roadways, installs ADA curb ramps, and more to address the City's infrastructure needs. The City monitors Resilience Agencies recommendations and mandates through the City Attorney's Office, the Department of Public Service, The Department of Public Safety and the Department of Utilities which are agencies whose primary responsibilities include the management of flood prone areas, public land or water resources, and emergency management for the City of Columbus. The Department of Public Service contains Traffic Management, Infrastructure Management, Parking Services, Smart Columbus, Keep Columbus Beautiful and Public Utilities contains Blue Print Columbus.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Columbus Department of Neighborhoods
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Columbus Department of Neighborhoods has conducted community planning efforts for Columbus priority neighborhoods, and actively collaborates with community agencies across the City to identify needs related to housing, economic development, and community improvement. This collaboration and production of neighborhood plans helps to identify and prioritize funding allocations and support delivery of plan goals.

17	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Recreation and Parks Department provides services to residents of Columbus neighborhoods and regularly collaborates with local residents to assess community needs. Evaluation of local park spaces and infrastructure has led to funding the renovation and improvement of neighborhood parks throughout the City, as well as development and renovation of local community centers. The Recreation and Parks Department has also conducted assessments of Columbus neighborhoods for planting of street trees, in an effort to expand the City's tree canopy and meet climate action goals.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	City of Columbus Department of Technology
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City of Columbus Department of Technology along with The Columbus Foundation completed a study of broadband access for Columbus residents, and has prioritized assistance programs aimed at discounting or subsidizing internet access rather than focusing primarily on investments in infrastructure. The Department has initiated public and low cost wireless internet programs and continues to work to leverage existing fiber deployments to ensure service is available to those in need. The Department of Finance and Management, Recreation and Parks Department, and Department of Technology collaborated this year to initiate a project to expand wireless internet access in neighborhood parks that are served by or are nearby to existing fiber infrastructure.

19	Agency/Group/Organization	The Refuge, Inc.
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Non-Homeless Special Needs Anti-poverty Strategy Addiction Recovery Services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into an agreement with the Refuge to rehabilitate the facilities at 1601 Sullivant Avenue, which houses all men who are in the last nine months of the recovery program. The Refuge is moving toward receiving their Ohio Mental Health Addiction Services (OHMAS) Certification. CDBG funding plans to rehabilitate the building in compliance with OHMAS certification requirements.
20	Agency/Group/Organization	ECONOMIC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Employment Regional organization Business Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City identified that business support and economic development goals were in need of additional support during the 2022 Program Year, and consulted with the Economic Community Development Institute (ECDI) to evaluate local needs. The City contracted with ECDI using CDBG funds to deliver training and development programs for local businesses.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	FRANKLINTON DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Education

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a grant agreement with Franklinton Development Association to fund the expansion of their Financial Life-Skills Program. The program provides education to participants in order to teach them how to better navigate finances and housing. The program covers participants' relationship with money; budgeting; banks and credit; loan and debt management; job-training and entrepreneurship; taxes; and risk management. Program participants are connected with other organizations and resources in Columbus through guest speakers, materials, and a job fair. CDBG funding will be utilized to secure an additional staff member for the program, increase marketing and outreach, and purchase supplies for direct services. Program expansion aims to allow Franklinton Development Association to serve more individuals and see an increased number of program graduates.
22	Agency/Group/Organization	Maroon Arts Group
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Non-housing community development needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a grant agreement with Maroon Arts Group to provide funding to finalize Maroon Arts Group's acquisition of the historic York Mason Building in the King-Lincoln/Bronzeville neighborhood. Maroon Arts Group plans to utilize the space to expand their programming offerings in the community. The building's acquisition will also preserve its history in a majority Black neighborhood experiencing the impacts of gentrification and erasure.
23	Agency/Group/Organization	Renew Homes Ohio
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy Preserving affordable housing and ensuring safe and sanitary property conditions
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a grant agreement with Renew Homes Ohio to provide home maintenance and preservation services to low-income households. Examples of services include: lawn care; tree removal; gutter/soffit maintenance; exterior paint; HVAC repair; minor roof repair; and plumbing.
24	Agency/Group/Organization	All THAT - Teens Hopeful About Tomorrow
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a grant agreement with All THAT to upgrade their Center of Excellence to create an engaging, safe environment for LMI teens and their families. The renovation will allow All THAT to expand their current education and employment services and social and emotional (SEL) programming.
25	Agency/Group/Organization	Ours Brothers Keepers
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-homeless Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Ours Brothers Keepers is partnered with Columbus Next Generation Corporation in a grant agreement with the City for the purpose of rehabilitating their mixed-use building for efficiency, single, and two-bedroom temporary, transitional housing for low-income persons. The units will target newly homeless individuals and persons exiting the justice system. The ground floor of the building will also be rehabbed to provide private office spaces for programming, such as counseling and job training services.
26	Agency/Group/Organization	Star House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Economic Development Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The City has entered into a grant agreement to provide renovations at Star House 24/7 Drop-in Center. The drop-in center requires reconfiguration of the main entrance to better accommodate the flow of foot traffic and improve safety and security. Star House also co-owns Carol Stewart Village, along with Finance Fund and CMHA, which offers transitional housing for 18-24 year old individuals, along with on-site programs and services. The City has funded the installation of a security fence and gate on the property, and is also planning to fund additional property renovations to increase security and safety, as well as improve property conditions.
27	Agency/Group/Organization	Columbus Next Generation Corporation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homelessness Strategy Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Columbus Next Generation is partnered with Ours Brothers Keepers in a grant agreement with the City for the purpose of rehabilitating Ours Brothers Keepers' mixed-use building for efficiency, single, and two-bedroom temporary, transitional housing for low-income persons. The units will target newly homeless individuals and persons exiting the justice system. The ground floor of the building will also be rehabbed to provide private office spaces for programming, such as counseling and job training services.
28	Agency/Group/Organization	Helping Hands and Wellness Center
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
29	Agency/Group/Organization	Rickenbacker Woods Foundation
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
30	Agency/Group/Organization	Directions for Youth & Families
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
31	Agency/Group/Organization	Gladden Community House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
32	Agency/Group/Organization	Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	
33	Agency/Group/Organization	Clintonville-Beechwold Community Resources Center (CRC)
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Health
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

34	Agency/Group/Organization	St. Stephen's Community House
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-homeless Services-Education
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Families with children Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	Community Shelter Board	The goals of the Strategic Plan portion of the Consolidated Plan were developed in close coordination with those of the A Place to Call Home Plan, which is Columbus's Continuum of Care planning document. The A Place to Call Home Plan is made up of a comprehensive and interrelated set of strategies to decrease the number of people who experience homelessness. The Community Shelter Board works with the City and other partner agencies on four goals in the A Place to Call Home Plan: 1) access; 2) crisis response; 3) transition; and 4) advocacy.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Capital Improvement Program	City of Columbus	The Capital Improvement Program is the City's primary guide for its Capital Improvements Budget. The infrastructure funding priorities outlined in the CIP were accounted for in the development of Strategic Plan goals related to the improvement and maintenance of infrastructure and other community assets.
Joint Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing	City of Columbus	The Analysis of Impediments (AI) to Fair Housing Choice outlines how the City of Columbus will take steps to affirmatively further fair housing. The purpose of these actions is to ensure housing choice for all residents of Columbus by eliminating housing discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.
PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan	Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority	CMHA is the City of Columbus and Franklin County's Public Housing Authority. The City of Columbus reviewed CMHA's PHA 5-Year and Annual Plan when developing Strategic Goals related to public housing. The Strategic Plan specifies that the City of Columbus is committed to collaborating and cooperating with CMHA on the redevelopment of public housing sites and units as outlined in the PHA 5-Year Plan.
Age Friendly Columbus Strategic Plan	Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission	The Age Friendly Columbus Plan looks at the community development needs of Central Ohio's 65 and older population. This plan identified 17 Strategies, and a need for more accessible affordable housing, accessible community space, and increased walkability in central neighborhoods.
Affordable Housing Study	The Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio	This plan looked at the characteristics of Central Ohio Families in need of affordable housing. In addition to looking at direct affordable housing needs, the plan also looks at greater community development issues that impact access to affordable housing, like healthcare, employment, education, supportive services, and sustainability.
Bench-Marking Central Ohio	The Columbus Foundation	This plan compares the City of Columbus to comparable cities across the nation. This plan found that the City of Columbus is behind its peers on indicators such as entrepreneurship, small business firms/startups, transportation access, pre-k enrollment, and infant mortality.

Table 3 – Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative (optional)

In 2024, the City received applications for CDBG funding from the following groups and organizations:

- ALL THAT - Teens Hopeful About Tomorrow
- HEART 4 Kids
- Truth House Transitional Living
- Service Relief Effort for Hospitality Workers
- Helping Hands Health and Wellness Center
- Columbus Housing Partnership
- Revest Realty, LLC
- Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority
- WeeCare, Inc
- Sanctuary Night
- Community Development for All People
- Economic and Community Development Institute
- Rickenbacker Woods Foundation
- Directions for Youth and Families
- Gladden Community House
- Clintonville-Beechwood Community Resource Center
- Hilltop RISE Economic CDC
- St. Stephens Community House
- Mid-Ohio Foodbank (d.b.a. Mid-Ohio Food Collective)
- Great Minds Academy
- Netcare Access
- Catholic Social Services
- Bridgeway Academy
- Community for New Direction
- Franklinton Gardens (d.b.a. Franklinton Farms)
- Families Flourish (d.b.a. Move to PROPSE)

- Vineyard Community Center
- Physicians CareConnection
- Hilliard Community Assistance
- The Refuge
- A Step in the Right Direction
- Columbus Urban League
- Franklinton Development Association
- Energility, LLC
- Homefull
- Columbus Fashion Initiative
- Renew Homes Ohio
- Legal Aid Society of Columbus
- Ours Brothers Keepers

AP-12 Participation – 91.105, 91.200(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

Citizen participation is a vital part of the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan process. Citizens, non-profit organizations, and other interested parties must be afforded adequate opportunity to participate in the planning process. This includes:

- Access to meetings;
- Access to HUD provided and other supplemental data;
- Translation Services;
- Technical assistance as required;
- Public hearings to identify housing and community development needs and review of proposed uses of funds;
- A public review of program accomplishments and performance metrics; and
- Timely response to complaints and grievances

The policies and procedures in the City's Citizen Participation Plan relate to several stages of action mentioned in law or regulation. In general, these stages or events include:

- Identification of housing and community development needs.
- Preparation of a draft use of funds for the upcoming year called the proposed Annual Action Plan or the development of a proposed new Multi-Year Strategic Plan.
- Formal approval by elected officials of a final Annual Action Plan or Multi-Year Strategic Plan.
- On occasion during the year, it might be necessary to change the use of the money already budgeted in an Annual Action Plan, or to change the priorities established in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan. In that case, a formal Substantial Amendment will be proposed, considered, and acted upon.
- After a program year is complete, the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) must be drafted for public review and comment.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
1	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The Department of Finance and Management, Grants Management Section hosted a public workshop on April 11, 2023 at 2:30 PM to provide an overview of CDBG regulations and release a pre-application that could be submitted to receive technical assistance comments. Twenty-six members of the public, representing various non-profits and community organizations, attended.	Grants Management answered questions throughout the presentation to engage attendees and gather information about public needs and potential projects.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
2	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	A second public workshop was held May 23, 2023 at 3:00 PM to announce the opening of the FY 2024 CDBG grant application and assist prospective applicants in understanding the CDBG program and refining their project ideas. Thirty members of the public attended.	Grants Management answered questions throughout the presentation to engage attendees and gather information about public needs and potential projects.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
3	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The Grants Management Section held five workshops on June 6, 8, 12, 13, and 22, 2023, to discuss the upcoming Request for Proposals for 2024 CDBG projects. A total of thirty-eight members of the public attended across all five workshops.	Grants Management answered questions throughout the presentation to engage attendees and gather information about public needs and potential projects.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
4	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	The City published in the local newspaper a notice of public comment period and public hearing to discuss the 2024 Annual Action Plan goals and proposed projects. The public comment period started 08/06/23 and ended 09/06/23. In addition, a list of proposed projects was emailed to the Grants Management contact list and posted on the Grants Management website for review and comment.	The City received 26 emailed comments in support of various proposed projects.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
5	Public Meeting	Non-targeted/broad community	The City invited any citizen or agency to attend a public meeting on 08/23/23 held in-person at 141 N Front Street with attached free parking. Eighteen (18) citizens attended in-person, and five (5) people attended virtually, most of whom were representing agencies who submitted proposals for 2024 HUD funding.	Six individuals requested to speak in support of the following organizations and CDBG projects: The Refuge, Ours Brothers Keepers, Homeport, Bridgeway Academy, HEART 4 Kids, and the Hiawatha Park Drive pedestrian and bicycle improvements.	N/A	

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (If applicable)
6	Newspaper Ad	Non-targeted/broad community	The City published in the local newspaper a notice of public comment period and public hearing to discuss the 2024 Annual Action Plan and proposed projects. The public comment period started 10/9/23 and ended 11/10/22. In addition, a draft Annual Action Plan was emailed to the Grants Management contact list and posted on the Grants Management website for review and comment.	Comment period ongoing. No comments received yet.		

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.220(c)(1,2)

Introduction

The City receives four HUD annual entitlement awards for CDBG, HOME, HOPWA and ESG.

The CDBG budget is a combination of the annual entitlement award, program income, anticipated prior year carryover funds and encumbrance cancellations from prior year projects. The CDBG program income is received from housing loan repayments, economic development loan repayments (including loan repayments from the City's economic development sub-recipients), as well as the revenue from several CDBG-funded Recreation Centers. These resources are expected to be available to fund City projects that address the priority needs and objectives identified in the Strategic Plan.

The HOME program budget combines the entitlement award with the program income amounts received from housing loan repayments.

The reported expected amounts available in the remainder of Consolidated Plan assume level entitlement funding through 2024.

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	7,600,000	400,000	0	8,000,000	0	Prior year resources is equal to unexpended funding from the 2018-2023 CDBG grant years that is currently uncommitted. Program income includes current available PI and RL funds receipted into IDIS based on City records, as well as projected PI + RL for the remainder of 2023 and all of 2024 based on current receipts for 2023.
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	5,000,000	650,000	0	5,650,000	0	Available funding is equal to the estimated 2024 Annual Allocation and estimated 2023 program income.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	2,600,000	0	0	2,600,000	0	Available funding is equal to the estimated 2024 Annual Allocation

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	600,000	0	0	600,000	0	Available funding is equal to the estimated 2024 Annual Allocation

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how matching requirements will be satisfied

The funding received through these CPD grants enables the City to fund a wide variety of projects, most of which take advantage of additional resources, and many of which would not be able to accomplish their goals without the use of federal funds. CDBG-funded projects to renovate non-profit public facilities are leveraging the operating budgets of those community based organizations to ensure that the programs and benefits to the public are maintained and increased. City investment of CDBG into roadway and intersection projects this year will increase safety and improve accessibility to affordable housing developments and community resources such as the Mid-Ohio Farm. Multiple

subrecipient agencies have, either through securing their own loan capital, or through fundraising and other grant awards, invested substantial amounts in their facilities and programs. The City has also taken a new approach in 2023 that will continue in 2024 for public facilities projects that are providing renovations of non-profit facilities, and has taken on project management responsibilities thanks to the Department of Finance and Management's Office of Construction Management staff. These staff members are performing critical project management duties that would otherwise have burdened non-profit staff and increased the City's risk in making CDBG awards. This additional contribution of staff time will leverage the CDBG funds allocated to these projects by reducing administrative costs.

The creation and maintenance of affordable housing require the use of both government and private financing and the encouragement of cooperation between the private non-profit, for-profit and public sector. To the greatest extent practicable, available federal, state and local public and private sector resources are leveraged to generate the maximum benefit from housing activities. Federal funds, provided through a loan or grant, are used to leverage other financial sources and fully fund projects. This additional funding may be provided by the business owner or other public and private partners that may include other city funding sources, Franklin County, the State of Ohio or other financial institutions. City Departments often utilize CDBG and HOME funding as gap funding to complete eligible projects.

Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Project Sponsors leverage more than \$4.0 million from numerous resources. This includes dollars from FEMA, United Way, Ryan White Parts A, B, and C, Ending the HIV Epidemic, and other grants. All medical case management services are leveraged to ensure all clients can access medical care and other supportive services.

Each year, the City is required to provide a 25 percent match for all HOME grant expenditures. Any excess match can be carried over to the next federal fiscal year. Annually, the City generates match contributions from a variety of sources including HOME match generated from multiple Affordable Housing Trust funded projects. The HOME match is documented each year in the City of Columbus Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER).

The Emergency Solutions Grant program requires a 100 percent match from the City of Columbus. In 2024, the city anticipates using over \$3 million of general fund "safety net" monies to assist emergency shelters.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

The 2024 AAP funds the improvement of a roadway that provides access to a HOME-funded affordable housing development, as well as a CDBG funded urban farm site. It also provides funding for the reconstruction of an intersection that has been identified as a safety concern, and is also in close proximity to a HOME-funded affordable housing development. Another new project for 2024 proposes the use of City-owned Land Bank properties to construct a playground and parking lot adjacent to the Rickenbacker Woods Foundation's existing properties to expand youth programming and access to recreation space for young people on the City's east side.

Discussion

The City has four economic development sub-recipient contracts that contribute to the CDBG funded Revolving Loan Fund (RLF). These funds are economic development loan repayments, both principal and interest, that are collected and retained by the City and are then reused for new CDBG eligible programs. These funds are reported in the CAPER, but program income amounts are expected to decline in 2024 and future years as there have been no recent economic development loan programs or other income-generating activities.

The City anticipates that all sources of funds in 2024 will be sufficient to meet the funding requirement for all projects included in this plan. However, in a scenario where resources are insufficient, proportional reductions will be made to activity budgets by both reducing the budgets for some of the projects and possibly eliminating some from the budget. The City will follow the budget revision process according to the HUD requirements for Citizen Participation Review and submit a substantial amendment if necessary, in accordance with the City's Citizen Participation Plan.

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Preserve and expand affordable housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs		Increase Access to Affordable Housing Increase self-sufficiency of Low Income Residents	CDBG: \$200,000 HOME: \$3,875,000	Rental units constructed: 24 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 15 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Added: 7 Household Housing Unit Homeowner Housing Rehabilitated: 16 Household Housing Unit Direct Financial Assistance to Homebuyers: 20 Households Assisted Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 55 Households Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
2	Ensure equal access to housing	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Ensure equal access to Housing	CDBG: \$200,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 50 Persons Assisted
3	Improve health outcomes	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Increase self-sufficiency of Low Income Residents	CDBG: \$235,000	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 1000 Persons Assisted
4	Provide housing for special needs populations	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Public Housing Homeless Non-Homeless Special Needs		Reduce poverty and enhance economic opportunity Increase Public Safety and Improve Health outcomes Homelessness mitigation and Prevention	CDBG: \$1,500,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 100 Persons Assisted
5	Provide educational/recreational youth programs	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements Increase Public Safety and Improve Health outcomes	CDBG: \$440,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 5000 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
6	Public facilities/Infrastructure improvements	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Public Facility and Infrastructure Improvements	CDBG: \$6,025,000	Public Facility or Infrastructure Activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 500000 Persons Assisted
7	Provide housing and services for persons with HIV	2020	2024	Non-Homeless Special Needs		Increase Access to Affordable Housing Increase Public Safety and Improve Health outcomes Homelessness mitigation and Prevention	HOPWA: \$2,530,357	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 152 Households Assisted
8	Increase access to housing and emergency shelter	2020	2024	Homeless		Homelessness mitigation and Prevention	ESG: \$600,000	Homelessness Prevention: 4000 Persons Assisted
9	Program Management, capacity building and/or admin	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development Capacity building			CDBG: \$800,000 HOPWA: \$78,000 HOME: \$450,000	

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Preserve and expand affordable housing
	Goal Description	HOME projects include: CHDO set-aside, Rental Housing Development, Downpayment Assistance , Homeowner Housing Development, TBRA, and CHDO Operating Support CDBG funds the continuation of the roof repair and replacement program administered by Habitat for Humanity Mid-Ohio
2	Goal Name	Ensure equal access to housing
	Goal Description	The CDBG Fair Housing program in 2024 provides funding to the Legal Aid Society of Columbus to provide education, marketing and outreach, collect and investigate complaints of housing discrimination, and perform fair housing testing.
3	Goal Name	Improve health outcomes
	Goal Description	CDBG funding will support programs to provide free medical care, healthy eating and active living, and resources for women who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing trafficking, participating in sex work, or otherwise at risk.
4	Goal Name	Provide housing for special needs populations
	Goal Description	CDBG funds will be used to provide necessary repairs and improvements to The Refuge's residential addiction treatment facility on Sullivant Ave.
5	Goal Name	Provide educational/recreational youth programs
	Goal Description	CDBG will fund the construction of a playground and parking lot to provide additional recreational space for youth programming by the Rickenbacker Woods Foundation.
6	Goal Name	Public facilities/Infrastructure improvements
	Goal Description	CDBG Projects include improvements to the intersection of Cleveland Ave and Myrtle, improvements to Wheatland Ave, HVAC and efficiency upgrades to multiple non-profit facilities that serve the public, and the installation of an expanded parking lot for the Hilltop Pre-K.

7	Goal Name	Provide housing and services for persons with HIV
	Goal Description	HOPWA programs include subrecipient contracts with Lutheran Social Services (Faith Mission), Equitas Health, Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency, and Licking County Coalition for Housing. Services provided include tenant based rental assistance, permanent housing placement, short term rent mortgage and utility assistance, and other supportive services.
8	Goal Name	Increase access to housing and emergency shelter
	Goal Description	ESG is sub-awarded to the Community Shelter Board to provide assistance for Shelter operations, supportive services, and rapid rehousing.
9	Goal Name	Program Management, capacity building and/or admin
	Goal Description	CDBG Projects include Department of Finance and Management Administration HOME Project for Department of Development, Housing Division Administration and Community Development Collaborative Operating Support HOPWA Administration

Projects

AP-35 Projects – 91.220(d)

Introduction

The Grants Management Section is responsible for developing programs and/or soliciting proposals from City Departments for all CDBG projects, reviewing the proposals, and selecting programs/proposals to fund in a given year. CDBG subrecipients are selected through a competitive application process managed by the Grants Management Team, and the Department of Development continues to foster relationships with qualified organizations to administer projects using HOPE, HOPWA, and ESG funding.

Projects

#	Project Name
8	2023- Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency OHH22F003 (LFCAA)
9	2023- Equitas Health, Inc. OHH22F003 (Equitas)
10	2023- Licking County Coalition for Housing OHH22F003 (LCCH)
11	2023- Faith Mission, Inc. OHH22F003 (FM)
12	2023- City of Columbus HOPWA Administration OHH22F003 (HOPWA Admin)

Table 7 - Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

The Grants Management Section is responsible for developing programs and/or soliciting proposals from City Departments for all CDBG projects, reviewing the proposals, and selecting programs/proposals to fund in a given year. The City prioritizes funding for projects that meet strategic goals and needs identified in the Consolidated Plan. In the summer of 2023, the City requested proposals for 2024 CDBG projects from local partners and agencies in an effort to expand outreach as part of the Citizen Participation Plan. The City is pleased to include a number of those proposals in the 2024 Annual Action Plan that will address multiple goals and objectives. A significant portion of 2024 CDBG funds are also dedicated to renovations and upgrades of infrastructure and public facilities and to improvements at non-profit buildings serving Columbus residents. Especially as the impacts of COVID-19 continue to be felt, Columbus residents and the non-profits that serve them need safe and accessible facilities to gather, receive services, or engage in recreation.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

1	Project Name	2023- Lancaster Fairfield Community Action Agency OHH22F003 (LFCAA)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Provide housing and services for persons with HIV
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to Affordable Housing Homelessness mitigation and Prevention
	Funding	HOPWA: \$452,000
	Description	Funding will be used for TBRA, Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility assistance (STRMU), PHP, and other supportive services. An estimated 118 households will be assisted.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
2	Project Name	2023- Equitas Health, Inc. OHH22F003 (Equitas)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Provide housing and services for persons with HIV
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to Affordable Housing Homelessness mitigation and Prevention
	Funding	HOPWA: \$770,000
	Description	Funding will be used for TBRA, PHP, and other supportive services. An estimated 70 households will be assisted.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
3	Project Name	2023- Licking County Coalition for Housing OHH22F003 (LCCH)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Provide housing and services for persons with HIV

	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to Affordable Housing Homelessness mitigation and Prevention
	Funding	HOPWA: \$500,000
	Description	Funding will be used for TBRA, Short-Term Rent, Mortgage, and Utility assistance (STRMU), PHP, and other supportive services. An estimated 191 households will be assisted.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
4	Project Name	2023- Faith Mission, Inc. OHH22F003 (FM)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Provide housing and services for persons with HIV
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to Affordable Housing Homelessness mitigation and Prevention
	Funding	HOPWA: \$800,000
	Description	Funding will be used for TBRA, PHP, and other supportive services. An estimated 131 households will be assisted.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	
5	Project Name	2023- City of Columbus HOPWA Administration OHH22F003 (HOPWA Admin)
	Target Area	
	Goals Supported	Program Management, capacity building and/or admin
	Needs Addressed	Increase Access to Affordable Housing Homelessness mitigation and Prevention
	Funding	HOPWA: \$78,000

	Description	Staffing costs in the City of Columbus Department of Development for management of the HOPWA grant program and contracts with sponsor agencies.
	Target Date	12/31/2024
	Estimate the number and type of families that will benefit from the proposed activities	
	Location Description	
	Planned Activities	

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.220(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the entitlement (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

Many of the CDBG projects described in the 2024 Annual Action Plan are intended to benefit low-to-moderate income families citywide. Refuge Inc., Sanctuary Night, Gladden Community House, the Hilltop Early Learning Center, and the Wheatland Avenue Street Improvements project are located on the west side of Columbus. Community Development for All People and Bridgeway Academy are located in the South Side neighborhood. Rickenbacker Woods Foundation's Genesis Project will serve the Near East Side neighborhood. Directions for Youth and Families' Ohio Avenue Youth Center serves the South Side and Near East Side neighborhoods. The Clintonville-Beechwold Community Resources Center is located in the Clintonville neighborhood. St. Stephen's Community House and the Cleveland at Myrtle Intersection Improvements project are located in the Linden neighborhood. Helping Hands Health and Wellness Center is located in the Northland neighborhood. All of these neighborhoods are recognized as strategic priority areas in the Consolidated Plan.

The HOPWA projects will not target geographic areas, but rather they will serve the entire Metropolitan Statistical Area. The HOME and ESG projects will also serve low-to-moderate income residents citywide. However, rental and homeowner development projects are located in priority neighborhoods such as: Linden, South Side, Near East, Far East, Hilltop, and Franklinton.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds

Table 8 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

Generally, the projects in the 2024 Annual Action Plan will serve low-to-moderate income residents and families citywide. Certain projects were selected because of the direct benefit to the residents living in priority neighborhoods with high concentration of low-income families.

Discussion

2024 HUD resources will provide funding for programs that operate citywide as well as priority neighborhoods.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 91.220(g)

Introduction

In order to work towards the City's Consolidated Plan's affordable housing related goals, the 2024 CDBG, ESG, HOME and HOPWA funding will be utilized to support low-income residents in their pursuits to live in safe and affordable housing. Rapidly rising inflation, particularly in housing costs, and stagnant wages have had a disproportional effect on low-to-moderate income households' finances and the need for the City to create and sustain affordable housing is greater than ever. Rapid Re-housing programs will continue to be funded with the Emergency Solutions Grant. Throughout 2024, additional programing for select HOME eligible projects will be available to Columbus residents through HOME-ARP funding (provided through a substantial amendment to the FY 2021 Annual Action Plan).

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	149
Non-Homeless	100
Special-Needs	204
Total	453

Table 9 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	350
The Production of New Units	20
Rehab of Existing Units	4
Acquisition of Existing Units	0
Total	374

Table 10 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion

The 2024 HOME program will include new construction of rental and ownership housing for low-to-moderate income individuals throughout the City of Columbus. HOME funds will also be utilized for downpayment assistance for low-to-moderate income homeowners who purchase homes from HOME funded developers. HOME funds will be made available to provide tenant-based rental assistance to eligible residents. The FY 2024 HOPWA program will include programing for eligible individuals to receive housing assistance through Tenant-based rental assistance, short-term rental, mortgage, and utility assistance, and permanent housing placement. ESG funds will be used to support housing placement and homelessness prevention programs through direct housing financial assistance.

AP-60 Public Housing – 91.220(h)

Introduction

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) serves the community by helping people access affordable housing by working with collaborative partners. CMHA develops, renovates, and maintains housing, promotes neighborhood revitalization, and assists residents in accessing needed social services.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

CMHA Goals for FY 2021-2025: (1) Continue to increase the availability of decent, safe, and affordable housing; (2) Promote self-sufficiency and asset development for families and individuals; (3) Improve community quality of life and economic vitality; and (4) Ensure compliance with Equal Opportunity and Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing requirements. CMHA will endeavor to realize the goals of the 2021 5-Year Plan through converting Public Housing through the Rental Assistance Demonstration Program, utilizing the PBV allocation to support development of affordable housing and the continuation of maintaining a SEMAP high performer in the HCV program CMHA is participating in HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration program. CMHA has submitted an entire portfolio. CMHA maintains a high performing housing choice voucher program (SEMAP); site-based wait lists are available at all the CMHA communities. CMHA continues to administer the HCV Family Self-Sufficiency program and the S8 Homeownership Program. CMHA is actively issuing vouchers and will continue to pull from its lottery pool in order to house as many low-income individuals as possible while funding permits. CMHA will continue to apply for additional funding in all other HCV programs as they become available. CMHA will continue to develop and/or acquire new mixed income housing in 2023 and plans to submit Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) applications for multiple new developments in both the 4% and 9% programs. CMHA will acquire land if needed to create additional mixed income, deeply affordable, LIHTC, workforce housing, market rate, and PBV communities throughout Franklin County and surrounding counties. CMHA also plans to acquire multifamily apartment stock in order to renovate and/or manage as mixed income, LIHTC, workforce housing, and PBV housing in order maintain rent affordability. CMHA will continue to issue Bonds to advance the mission of the agency and acquire, build, or cause the development of mixed income, deeply affordable, LIHTC, workforce housing, market rate, and PBV communities throughout Franklin County in addition to capital improvements and renovations of assets or buildings under the ownership of CMHA. CMHA has established a HUD designated EnVision Center and continues to build out the large network of services and resources for all CMHA residents to meet the goals as described above.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

CMHA is converting all public housing units to project based voucher rental assistance. Once this happens public housing residents are permitted to move out after one year (if vouchers are available)

and then they are eligible for the CMHA Home Ownership Program. In addition, CMHA has a HUD designated EnVision Center located across the street from our main office that offers many resident services to help residents manage their wellbeing, health and other areas of their lives.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

CMHA is not a troubled agency.

Discussion

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.220(i)

Introduction

The lead agency for the homeless service system in Columbus is the Community Shelter Board (CSB), an independent non-profit agency founded in 1986 by a group of civic leaders, business associations, local government leaders and representatives from a variety of foundations. Its main responsibilities are resource development and investment, service delivery coordination and planning, fostering collaboration, program accountability, and public policy reform. CSB allocates funding annually to partner agencies for programs serving homeless individuals and families in Columbus. CSB receives funding from many and varied sources such as the City of Columbus, Franklin County, Federal funds, Ohio Department of Development, United Way, Together Rebuilding Lives, and private and corporate donations.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

The City, in partnership with the Community Shelter Board, has created a unified system to better respond to homeless persons who are not accessing shelter, including a coordinated call and dispatch system, common documentation and shared outcomes for the street and camp outreach program. The Street to Housing Outreach Collaborative (SHOC) has been created as Mt Carmel Hospital has been awarded the outreach services this year. As they have taken over this role, they have grown the number of partners and increased the coordination across not just outreach providers, but addiction services and other needed services for people experiencing homelessness. The goal of this new structure is to improve access to resources for adults living on the streets, reducing the number of adults experiencing long-term street homelessness; reducing frustration for the community trying to help homeless people, provide needed services onsite, and is more efficiently deploying resources to reduce duplication of efforts in Columbus and Franklin County.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

The Consolidated Plan Homeless Strategy revolves around two target groups: 1) homeless households (individuals and families with children) who have a disabled member and have experienced long-term homelessness and 2) homeless households without a disabled member who have experienced short-term homelessness, as well as households at-risk of homelessness. Strategies for both of these groups involve the prevention of homelessness and, if homelessness occurs, the provision of shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing and supportive services for those in need. The lead agency for the crisis response system in Columbus is the Community Shelter Board (CSB). CSB partners provide access to shelter beds for men, women, and families in Columbus and Franklin County. Beyond providing

a secure and clean place to sleep, all programs provide access to basic services such as showers, meals, healthcare and material assistance as well as referrals, supportive services and crisis assistance. Most shelters have resource centers that provide internet access, telephones, employment leads, job training resources and other community resources as well as support staff to assist individuals in obtaining jobs and housing.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

In partnership with the Community Shelter Board, the city has created a unified system for permanent supportive housing. The Unified Supportive Housing System (USHS) includes a centralized eligibility determination and placement, periodic review of tenant needs and "move up" incentives to encourage tenants to be more independent. Fewer adults and families will experience long-term homelessness. Additionally, there are more housing units available, easier access to supportive housing for prospective tenants, one application process and improved targeting of scarce housing resources. People with the greatest needs receive priority for housing. In addition, the City of Columbus and CSB have begun piloting new programs funded via local funds to research and test best practices from across the U.S.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs.

The City of Columbus in partnership with Franklin County and the Community Shelter Board are coordinating a Homelessness Prevention Network of over 28 Housing Resource Specialists working in nonprofit organizations throughout the City and County. These specialists and agencies provide crisis response assistance, including risk assessments and housing problem solving, to individuals and families in order to prevent eviction and homelessness, and to promote housing stability. Partners provide prevention and shelter diversion programs to assist families and individuals who are homeless, precariously housed, or living on the streets, to locate and maintain stable housing. Families and individuals are provided with relocation services, referrals, tenant education and linkage to short-term financial rental assistance to quickly resolve the family or individual housing crisis.

Discussion

AP-70 HOPWA Goals– 91.220 (I)(3)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	110
Tenant-based rental assistance	186
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	0
Total	296

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.220(j)

Introduction:

The City of Columbus does not have enough affordable housing to meet current needs and the private market is not producing a high volume of affordable rental housing. As discussed in the Consolidated Plan, there are many barriers to providing affordable housing. A number of market characteristics impact the production of new units, including the large population growth in Columbus; increased demand for rental housing units; rising rental and homeownership costs; the recovery of the housing market; the impacts on the economy from the COVID-19 pandemic; the production of new housing units by the private market; current housing affordability; demolition of public housing units; the number of people on the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher waiting list; and the cost of land and development. Neighborhoods continue to seek the highest possible quality and amenities for housing developed in their communities, and this tends to increase costs and make housing units less affordable to those seeking to live in these areas. The process of obtaining plan approval and building permits requires the use of paid professionals such as architects, engineers and lawyers to address building issues.

Additionally, the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority has reduced the number of public housing units in the community by selling properties at the expiration of the affordability period. Between 2015 and 2019, CMHA has been allocated many new project based voucher and development funds from the federal government however residents struggle to find affordable and available units in Franklin County.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

The City of Columbus utilizes HOME funds to invest in the City's housing stock. The City also uses Affordable Housing Bond funds to invest in affordable housing unit construction. The City follows strict community input processes in advance of land use and zoning changes for affordable housing project. Although this sometimes can be so involved that the projects are delayed, it is important that the neighbors of the new developments are allowed sufficient opportunity to comment on development plans.

The City of Columbus is strategically investing in community transit options and transit oriented development planning. This is also true for Franklin County and the Central Ohio Transit Authority, the public institution which serves as the public transportation provider for the City and County. Building affordable housing on or near quality public transportation is a priority for the City. The city also invests in bike accessible transit options.

Additionally, the City continues to invest general funds in code enforcement and eviction prevention programs. Recently, the County has removed eviction records for all Franklin County residents that were five years or older.

Discussion:

Columbus has embarked on an update of its zoning code – the first update since 1950 – with an emphasis on equity. The process is comprehensive and will require robust and creative community engagement. Focus early on will be on transit corridors.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.220(k)

Introduction:

Described below are the city's planned actions to carry out the following strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

All rental programs require tenants to be at or below 80 percent AMI with a focus on households at or below 60 percent AMI. City homebuyer programs continue outreach with lenders including on-site training and outreach at homebuyer education classes.

The majority of eligible clientele in the Columbus MSA reside in Franklin County. We have 2 project sponsors that are located in eastern suburban counties and have the ability to assist clientele in those areas. In order to assist more potential clients, the program will request Releases of Information from potential clients for all 4 project sponsors, enabling any and all clientele to be assisted by any project sponsor no matter what county they reside in within the eligible metropolitan statistical area, eventually expanding assistance and shortening overall wait time.

Short term rental assistance is given to clientele who are currently established with stable living/housing arrangements but due to unforeseen circumstance may require assistance. An obstacle within the HOPWA program is the barrier to short-term rental assistance due to very strict local policies. In order to address this obstacle, local policies will be updated to remove barriers to obtain short-term rental assistance. Instead of requiring proof of an unexpected hardship, project sponsors will be required to analyze client circumstances case by case to determine if the provision of short-term assistance will prevent the possibility of eviction and further stabilize housing. Over time with this change, we should see an increase in the amount of persons being assisted instead of most people

An additional obstacle concerning long term rental assistance is the amount of available units as well as the bandwidth of project sponsors to administer the program. One of the 4 project sponsors has increased staff and therefore bandwidth in order to help dwindle down the TBRA waitlist and help new potential clients. The HOPWA program will also use information from additional affordable housing programs to inform project sponsors when complexes start to lease up, increasing awareness of available low income units. Over time we hope to continue to expand the availability of long term rental assistance to new clients and keep our waitlist minimal or nonexistent.

The City has received approval of its HOME-ARP Needs Assessment and Plan and will work to address affordable housing and homelessness services gaps in the community.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

The Rental Housing Preservation and Production Program prioritizes the redevelopment of existing affordable housing rental units. New units are added to the inventory through this program. It is funded with HOME funds and city capital dollars. HUD- approved homeowner counseling agencies assist with foreclosure prevention, tenant education and assistance and pre-purchase counseling.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The city was awarded over \$5 million in Lead Hazard Reduction Program funds in 2019. All contractors used in the housing programs are licensed Lead Abatement Contractors or are qualified under the Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) and are able to recognize and deal with lead hazards in construction projects.

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

Programs funded with CDBG and HOME funds provide homeowner and rental rehabilitation and repairs, new construction of rental and homeowner units, and down payment assistance for income-eligible, first-time homebuyers. These activities, that produce and preserve affordable housing, are important in reducing the impact of poverty on low-income families. The City is using CDBG funding to support activities that financial life skills training, youth empowerment, and recreational activities. Using general fund dollars, the city also provides funding for anti-poverty activities such as literacy and job training.

The city implements the federally required Section 3 program which is intended to ensure that when employment or contracting opportunities are generated by HUD-funded Section 3 covered projects, preference is given to qualified low- and very low-income persons. The city funds various programs to provide assistance to low-income Columbus residents to provide training and education, job skills and readiness, and access to other resources. In the last two years, the City has partnered with Columbus State Community College and other partners to ensure that Columbus City School graduates receive full tuition to Columbus State Community College.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

See SP-40 Section of Consolidated Plan.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

There are a number of ongoing collaborative efforts in the community. Guided by the Community Shelter Board, the city, county and other entities participate in efforts to address and end homelessness through the A Place to Call Home Program. The Community Development Collaborative is funded by the City, County and other private organizations to provide operating support and technical assistance to Community Development Corporations and Community Housing Development Organizations. The

Columbus Area Affordable Housing Task Force which consists of HUD, state and local government staff and development organizations meets every quarter to discuss affordable rental projects and preservation opportunities. There is an ongoing collaboration with the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority regarding development opportunities, use of project- based vouchers and other related issues. Additionally, a group of local development organizations has formed the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio to make a case for affordable housing and need for resources in the community. The City meets with LIHTC rental developers annually to provide updates and roll out programs for the coming year. City staff also convene a quarterly meeting of bankers, realtors and developers to discuss homeownership opportunities and housing counseling.

Discussion:

The City is committed to outreach and engagement with stakeholders to address issues and developments in the community.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.220(I)(1,2,4)

Introduction:

The City intends to utilize all HOME funds for projects identified as eligible activities in Section 92.205.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	0
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	0

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	0
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	85.00%

HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)

Reference 24 CFR 91.220(I)(2)

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

The City intends to utilize all HOME funds for projects identified as eligible activities in Section

92.205.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

The City of Columbus and its Housing Division uses HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds to create affordable housing units and assist income-eligible families with the purchase of a home. The Recapture Policy ensures that the city recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance paid to the homebuyers in the event that the assisted housing does not continue to be the primary residence of the family through the duration of the affordability period. This policy is included in the loan agreement, promissory note, mortgage and restrictive covenant. These affordability periods are outlined at 24 CFR Part 92.254(a)(4), as follows: The affordability period is 5 years for all HOME-funded units under \$15,000. The affordability period is 10 years for all HOME-funded units between \$15,000-\$40,000. The affordability period is 15 years for all HOME-funded units over \$40,000. New construction rental development has a 20 year affordability period. The HOME amount per unit will be used to determine the appropriate affordability period. All homeownership development funding requires that a minimum of \$1,000 of the funding be used for affordability unless additional down payment assistance is requested. All homebuyers are approved by the City of Columbus after being evaluated for compliance with HOME and City underwriting requirements. The City of Columbus will use the recapture provisions to recoup HOME investment when the affordability period is not met, as follows: The HOME investment that is subject to recapture is based on the full amount of HOME assistance that enabled the homebuyer to purchase the dwelling unit. This includes any HOME assistance that reduced the purchase price from the fair market value to an affordable price, but excludes the amount between the cost of producing the unit and the market value of the property (the development subsidy). Any voluntary or involuntary sale, transfer of ownership of the property or not maintaining the property as the primary residence of the buyer triggers the recapture requirements. The City will recapture from the net proceeds the entire amount of the HOME affordability investment from the homeowner. In the event that the net proceeds of the sale of the home are insufficient to repay 100 percent of the HOME investment due and accept this amount as satisfaction of the loan agreement, promissory note, mortgage and restrictive covenant.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

The following is from the City's HOME funded Loan Agreement templates and will be utilized when required:

RECAPTURE THE FULL HOME INVESTMENT OUT OF NET PROCEEDS

The City of Columbus and its Housing Division provide HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds to create affordable housing units and assist income-eligible families with purchasing homes. This Recapture Policy is to ensure that the City recoups all or a portion of the HOME assistance to the homebuyer, if the housing does not continue to be the principal residence of the family for the duration of the period of affordability.

Affordability periods are outlined at 24 CFR Part 92.254 (a) (4), as follows:

<u>HOME amount per unit</u>	<u>Affordability Period</u>
Under \$15,000	5 years
\$15,000 - \$40,000	10 years
Over \$40,000	15 years

New construction rental housing has a 20 year affordability period. The HOME investment that is subject to recapture is based on the amount of HOME assistance that enabled the homebuyer to purchase the dwelling unit. This includes any HOME assistance that reduced the purchase price from the fair market value to an affordable price, but excludes the amount between the cost of producing the unit and the market value of the property (the development subsidy).

The HOME amount per unit (see above) will be used to determine the appropriate affordability period. The City of Columbus will use the recapture provision to recoup HOME investment when the affordability period is not met, as follows:

- a) Any voluntary or involuntary sale or transfer of ownership of the property triggers the recapture requirements;
- b) The City will recapture from the net proceeds the entire amount of the HOME investment from the homeowner.

In the event that the net proceeds of the sale of the home are insufficient to repay 100% of the HOME investment due, the City of Columbus will recoup the remaining net proceeds of sale and accept this amount as satisfaction of the loan agreement, promissory note and restrictive covenant.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

On a case-by-case basis, the city may use HOME funds to refinance existing debt in connection with the rehabilitation of multifamily housing. Eligible properties may be located anywhere in the city. Under no circumstances will HOME funds be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG. In addition, the guidelines established by the city require that 1) the multifamily housing undergoing rehabilitation and refinancing is necessary to continue to provide affordable housing to low-income families, 2) rehabilitation must be the primary eligible activity for which at least 60 percent of the HOME funds are used, 3) eligible projects must require a minimum level of rehabilitation of \$10,000 per unit, 4) a maximum of 40 percent of HOME funds may be used for the refinancing of existing debt, 5) the use of HOME funds must be conditioned upon a low-income affordability period of a minimum of 15 years, and 6) the city must review the management practices of the property owner to insure that disinvestment has not occurred, that the long-term needs of the project can be met and that the feasibility of serving the targeted population over at least a 15 year affordability period can be demonstrated.

5. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of the preference for persons with special needs or disabilities. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(i) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

N/A

6. If applicable to a planned HOME TBRA activity, a description of how the preference for a specific category of individuals with disabilities (e.g. persons with HIV/AIDS or chronic mental illness) will narrow the gap in benefits and the preference is needed to narrow the gap in benefits and services received by such persons. (See 24 CFR 92.209(c)(2)(ii) and 91.220(l)(2)(vii)).

N/A

7. If applicable, a description of any preference or limitation for rental housing projects. (See 24 CFR 92.253(d)(3) and CFR 91.220(l)(2)(vii)). Note: Preferences cannot be administered in a manner that limits the opportunities of persons on any basis prohibited by the laws listed under 24 CFR 5.105(a).

N/A

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Reference 91.220(l)(4)**

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

The Community Shelter Board (CSB), in support of the Columbus and Franklin County Continuum of Care, has a consolidated program policies and procedures which is in accordance with 24 CFR Section 576.400. Contracts between CSB and providers require the agency to follow the Columbus and Franklin County Homeless Crisis Response System Policies and Procedures.

Current Columbus and Franklin County Homeless Crisis Response System Policies and Procedures:

<https://66381bb28b9f956a91e2-e08000a6fb874088c6b1d3b8bebbb337.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/file-Homeless-Crisis-Response-System-Policies-and-Procedures-712022.pdf>

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

CSB, on behalf of the local CoC, implements a coordinated assessment system for single adults and families experiencing a housing crisis in Columbus and Franklin County. Netcare operates the Homeless Hotline and has specialists available 24/7. This year we piloted calling out to certain encampments to achieve a more thorough engagement of the onsite population. This was met with high rate of success and we are looking to exercise this effort in the future as a possible new practice of street engagement.

The assessment that occurs over the phone establishes the nature of the housing crisis and an appropriate response. Netcare works with callers to identify shelter diversion opportunities by exploring other housing options and resources. For a household that is calling because of domestic violence, Netcare staff conducts a warm transfer to the local domestic violence shelter. For underage youth, Netcare conducts a warm transfer to the youth shelter. Street outreach specialists work with Netcare to help unsheltered people access shelter. Both families and single adults determined to meet shelter eligibility criteria are then referred to the most appropriate shelter bed.

Once in shelter, need is assessed using the standardized Housing Assistance Screening Tool within 5 days of shelter entry. Services, financial assistance, and housing opportunities are provided based on the results of the assessment. Emergency shelter staff conducts the client intake, including the system screening and assessment that informs the referral of households to rapid rehousing (RRH) programs. Shelter staff either helps the household apply for financial assistance or links the family or individual to a RRH provider. Referral to RRH is determined based on the screening performed by the shelter and the capacity of each RRH provider. Shelter staff and RRH providers share intake and

assessment documentation, reducing time and eliminating duplication of assessments for households and staff. Shelters and RRH programs adhere to HUD CPD-17-01, using a standardized screening tool and process and data already collected in HMIS to identify the highest priority households. RRH is prioritized for families with children, pregnant women, Veterans, youth, people with disabilities and DV, and people with severe service needs.

CSB and shelter providers collaborate with community partners to bring a wide array of services to shelters, including physical, behavioral, and mental health care. All services are voluntary.

The Unified Supportive Housing System (USHS) is a collaborative effort managed by CSB; our PHA, Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA); and the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board of Franklin County (ADAMH). USHS continuously screens active system clients for permanent supportive housing (PSH) eligibility, using homeless management information system (HMIS) data and case conferencing. Monthly, CSB prepares a “hotlist” of prioritized clients based on their current homeless status, history of homelessness, and self-declared disability, along with the chronic homeless status. For the households prioritized by USHS as chronically homeless or having an extended homeless history, the household’s case manager submits a standardized service needs assessment. USHS uses this assessment to prioritize households for PSH based on their vulnerability and match them to open units according to their needs and preferences. USHS adheres to HUD CPD-16-11, prioritizing chronically homeless households first, then long-term homeless households with severe service needs. USHS manages units funded through a variety of subsidies including PHA Housing Choice Vouchers, Mainstream Vouchers, Project-Based Vouchers, Emergency Housing Vouchers, CoC Leasing and Rental Assistance programs, and the HOME program.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

The City of Columbus makes a sub-recipient agreement to the Community Shelter Board. CSB was created in 1986 to respond to the growing problem of homelessness in Franklin County. The founders include: the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the United Way of Central Ohio, The Columbus Foundation, the Columbus Chamber and many other organizations concerned about the quality of life in Franklin County. CSB in turn creates sub-recipients agreements ESG funds to nonprofit providers of homeless services.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The City of Columbus meets the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a).

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

Program performance standards are established by Community Shelter Board (CSB) and recommended to the CoC Board for approval and incorporate HUD requirements and local standards. Program performance standards are reviewed annually by the CoC Board. CSB incorporates these standards into annual program agreements with each sub-recipient. An annual Program Outcome Plan (POP) is part of the agreement. The POP establishes individual program performance goals for all homeless programs, by type. For the ESG funded programs, CSB establishes performance measures related to successful housing outcomes, average length of shelter stay, average length of RRH participation, recidivism, shelter occupancy rate, housing affordability and others. If CSB and the sub-recipient disagree on the annual POP, the sub-recipient may appeal. CSB monitors program performance and provides monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual community data reports. Each POP performance goal is assessed versus actual performance as achieved or not achieved. Achieved Goal is defined as 90 percent or better of a numerical goal or within five percentage points of a percentage goal, except where a lesser or greater value than this variance also indicates an achieved goal.

Annually, each program is assigned a performance rating of High, Medium, or Low as determined by overall program achievement of performance outcomes for the evaluation period.

Programs rated as “Low” or experiencing long-standing and/or serious program issues and/or systemic agency concerns will be handled by CSB through a Quality Improvement Intervention (QII) process. This process is based on quarterly one-on-one dialogues between CSB and the provider agency and considers agency plans and progress on addressing program issues. If the agency and/or CSB find that the QII process is not working, either may refer the concerns/issues to the CoC Board for handling (if the program is solely funded by HUD and not CSB). The provider will be given an opportunity to present its case, if the CoC Board decision is being appealed, to the CoC before a final decision is made by the CoC.

The City is currently monitoring the ESG CSB and ESG-CV CSB subawards.

The Homeless Hotline, emergency shelters, RRH, PSH and Homelessness Prevention Network initiatives all participate in the local HMIS managed by CSB and share data in an open system.

